



USDA Foreign Agricultural Service

GAIN Report

Global Agriculture Information Network

Template Version 2.09

Required Report - public distribution

Date: 1/20/2009

GAIN Report Number: TH9008

Thailand

Grain and Feed

Weekly Rice Price Update

2009

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Report Highlights:

Domestic and export rice prices continued to rise from last week, increasing \$15-\$25/MT. The ongoing investigation into the second portion of last November's tender has squeezed exporter's ability to release supplies and has kept the movement of rice focused on parboiled shipments to African countries. As intervention prices remain higher than the world market, traders speculate that increased smuggling is occurring from Burma and Cambodia where rice can be sold in Thailand at relatively higher prices.

Includes PSD Changes: No
Includes Trade Matrix: No
Annual Report
Bangkok [TH1]
[TH]

Indicative Prices (Week Ending Jan. 19):

Thailand: Export (FOB) Prices for various grades of rice (USD/M.T.)									
	Exporter Observations							Period Avg.	
	#1	#2	#3	#4	#5	#6	#7	CUR.	PRV.
F WR 100 B	880	-	-	-	890	835	-	868	863
WR 100 B	615	-	-	-	630	590	590	606	598
PB 5%	-	-	-	-	630	640	590	620	618
WR 5%	585	-	-	-	615	560	580	585	578
WR 10%	565	-	-	-	-	553	-	559	547
WR 15%	515	-	-	-	-	525	-	520	505
WR 25%	490	-	-	-	-	475	-	482	463
WR 35%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
A 1 SUP	345	-	-	-	-	335	310	330	317
A 1 SPEC	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Source: Average actual prices received from exporters, Exchange rate: 34.7 baht/U.S.\$									

Market Tone

Domestic and export rice prices continued to rise from last week, increasing \$15-\$25/MT. The ongoing investigation into the second portion of last November's tender has squeezed exporter's ability to release supplies. Shipments of rice under the second November tender remain frozen until the completion of the investigation. The majority of current trading activity has been with parboiled rice shipment to African countries.

Intervention program prices remain higher than current world market prices. Traders speculate that increased smuggling is occurring from Burma and Cambodia where rice is being sold in Thailand at a relatively higher price of 9,000 Baht/ton (approximately USD 260) for white rice at 15% moisture. This price is lower than intervention program prices but much higher than rice prices seen in Burma and Laos. The price offered by intervention program for white rice at 15% moisture is pegged at 12,000 Baht/ton (approximately USD 347).

The following are the reported rice exports (as is basis):

WEEK ENDING	QUANTITY	4-WK AVG	YEAR TO DATE	YEAR AGO	YEAR TO DATE AS % OF LAST YEAR
	(MT)	(MT)	(TMT)	(TMT)	%
Nov 23	51,310	68,955	7,049	5,614	25.6
Nov 30	55,287	69,118	7,104	5,829	22.0
Dec 7	68,265	65,689	7,172	5,977	20.0
Dec 14	91,039	66,475	7,263	6,162	18.0
Dec 21	84,971	74,891	7,348	6,368	15.4
Dec 28	104,710	87,246	7,453	6,570	13.4
Dec 31	16,694	-	7,470	6,597	13.2
Jan 4	3,295	-	3	58	-94.3
Jan 11	87,324	-	91	220	-58.9
Jan 18	127,646	-	218	379	-42.2

Note on data: Export figures since March 22, 2002, do not include fragrant rice. The authority to report fragrant rice exports was moved from the Thai Board of Trade to the Ministry of Commerce's Office of Commodity Standards, which does not release official fragrant rice export data. FAS/BKK will report only official export numbers from the Board of Trade for non-fragrant and from the Office of Commodity Standards for fragrant rice when available, but the reader should bear in mind the difference between the data.

Unofficial exports (excluding fragrant rice) for Jan. 12-18, 2009 totaled 127,646 tons, up 40,322 tons from the previous week. Exports during Jan. 1 – 18 totaled 218,265 tons, as compared with 378,809 tons in the previous year.

According to the Department of Foreign Trade, Ministry of Commerce, total rice exports (including fragrant rice) during Jan. 1 – 19, 2009, amounted to 273,819 tons, down 40.6 percent from 461,070 tons in the previous year.

Weekly Rice Sales

Private registered rice export sales for the period of Dec. 29-31, Jan. 5-9 and Jan 12-16, 2009 are as follows:

Movement (MT)	Dec. 29-31	Jan. 5-9	Jan 12-16
Weekly sales	39,017	122,342	159,463
4 week sum	-	-	-
4 week mov. avg.	-	-	-
Total weekly sales	6,722,534	122,342	281,805

End of Report.